

Application No. 10/687,109

the elected method groups will not be encumbered by the type of compound that is designed and synthesized and therefore, the species election only serves to potentially increase the cost of the prosecution to both Applicant and to the Patent Office. In any event, Applicants note that such a requirement is primarily, if not solely, intended to facilitate a search by the Examiner. Applicants note that the Examiner is obligated to examine the generic claims and submits that the scope of the claims of the present invention is not limited to the elected species.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the restriction requirement and species election as requested above.

Respectfully submitted,

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